



MICHIGAN SENATE

MIDYEAR UPDATE

FROM SENATOR ALAN SANBORN

ASSISTANT PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Representing the 11th District consisting of the Townships of Armada, Bruce, Chesterfield, Harrison, Lenox, Macomb, Ray, Richmond, Shelby, and Washington; and Armada, Memphis, Mount Clemens, New Baltimore, New Haven, Richmond, and Romeo.

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FIGHT FOR EVERY MICHIGAN JOB

The Senate majority took the economic reins in 2003, proposing sweeping initiatives to jump-start Michigan's stalled economy and help create good-paying jobs. The capstone of this effort was the nine-part JOBS plan—Job Opportunities for Business Success. Several components have already been signed into law, including providing tax relief through Tool & Die Recovery Zones; a Sanborn bill reauthorizing the Michigan Economic Growth Authority to continue the state's main tax-incentive granting authority used to spur economic development; creating a venture

capital investment incentive to spur new investment in Michigan businesses, particularly in the high-tech and life-sciences industries; establishing a Clean Michigan Initiative revolving loan program to accelerate the cleanup of abandoned brownfield sites; and reducing (by 50 percent over three years) the tax businesses must pay on the health care benefits they provide their employees. In February, Senate Republicans launched the second phase of the JOBS plan, continuing the effort of the initial JOBS plan.

MACOMB COUNTY UNDER EMERALD ASH BORER QUARANTINE

Macomb County is now under the emerald ash borer quarantine. For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/mda and click on "Emerald Ash Borer" in the Spotlight section or www.emeraldashborer.info or contact your regional MDA, MDNR, or local MSU-Extension office.

REPORT CARD (Since Taking Office)

Senate Votes Taken:	Sanborn Votes Cast:
2,206	2,206

Record: 100%

Receive E-Legislative Updates

If you would like to receive periodic legislative updates via e-mail, please send a short note to senasanborn@senate.mi.gov. Electronic mail is an inexpensive and convenient method to transmit information to interested citizens.



METHAMPHETAMINE PENALTIES PACKAGE SIGNED INTO LAW

Criminals who take part in the production of methamphetamine will face tougher fines and penalties thanks to new laws. Public Acts 307-313 provide law enforcement officials and courts with necessary tools to convict offenders who endanger public lives by making methamphetamine. Sen. Sanborn sponsored Senate Bill 651 (PA 309), which makes it illegal to purchase or possess large quantities of pseudoephedrine, a key ingredient in methamphetamine production. The new penalties under the package increase to 20 years imprisonment the maximum penalty for owning or possessing the places, chemicals, or equipment used in the production of methamphetamine. Byproducts of methamphetamine production are so toxic that law enforcement and cleaning personnel must wear HAZMAT suits when working at crime scenes.

2004 AGENDA: WORKING TODAY FOR MICHIGAN'S TOMORROW

Senate Republicans are making strides on their 2004 agenda, "Working Today for Michigan's Tomorrow." The bold legislative agenda focuses on creating jobs, strengthening families, and continuing to improve the quality of Michigan schools while also bringing state spending in line with existing revenues. The agenda is based on Michigan's priorities including: improving Michigan's competitiveness; protecting families from health threats, criminal predators, and unfair financial burdens; stretching education dollars to ensure Michigan's children get the best education; preserving Michigan's beauty through land-use regulations, promoting recycling, and limiting out-of-state trash; and building a healthy Michigan by lowering health care costs while increasing accessibility, reducing state spending, and continuing Senate oversight of government activities. Call or write for more details.



Sen. Sanborn celebrates Reading Month with students at Ebeling Elementary in Macomb. He also visited Lobbestael Elementary in Harrison Township, Sugarbush and Naldrett Elementaries in New Baltimore, Siefert Elementary in Ray, Switzer Elementary in Shelby Township, and the Romeo Head Start at the First Congregational Church.

MEGA REAUTHORIZED AND STRENGTHENED

Legislation to reauthorize and strengthen the Michigan Economic Growth Authority was signed into law in December. This legislation, sponsored by Sen. Sanborn, will help Michigan remain competitive in attracting new businesses and encourage current businesses to expand, creating more job opportunities for Michigan residents. It is one of the main programs in the nine-point Republican "JOBS" plan—Job Opportunities for Business Success. MEGA was set to expire Dec. 31, 2003. Approval of the package extends the program until Dec. 31, 2009, at which point the Single Business Tax also is scheduled to expire. Sanborn stated that Michigan must have the tools to compete with other states and foreign countries if we are to successfully bring new jobs here and keep the ones we have.

SURVEY RESULTS

Below you will find a compilation of respondents' opinions on four questions that were posed in the last newsletter. Thank you to those readers who took the time to complete the survey!

- 98% of respondents agree with Senator Sanborn that Michigan voters should be given the opportunity to vote on a constitutional amendment that would limit marriage to the union of one man and one woman, while 2% did not.
- 98% of those responding support Senator Sanborn's anti-terrorist legislation to prohibit the issuance of a driver license or I.D. card to anyone who is not known to be in the U.S. legally, 2% did not.
- 90% of responding readers support Senator Sanborn's legislation to update Michigan's laws to make it a crime for someone to electronically "peep" in disrobing areas, 10% did not.

----- Clip & Mail -----

SURVEY QUESTIONS...

Please take the time to answer the following questions and return your responses to my office at: Senator Alan Sanborn, P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909

1 Senator Sanborn has always stood staunchly opposed to tax increases of any kind. As you may know, the Governor has set forth numerous proposals to "enhance" state revenue by increasing fees and taxes.

A Do you support increasing the cigarette tax? ☐ Yes ☐ No

B Do you support raising Michigan's Estate Tax? ☐ Yes ☐ No

C Do you support an increased mark up and tax on liquor? ☐ Yes ☐ No

D Do you support the measure to force the early payment of property taxes? ☐ Yes ☐ No

E Would you like to see the state continue to cut spending rather than balancing the budget through increased fees and taxes? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2 If it could be shown that placement of youthful offenders in specific private and/or out-of-state facilities could result in improved outcomes, such as reduced recidivism rates and much lower costs to the state, while not sacrificing safety, would you support allowing such placements? ☐ Yes ☐ No

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE:

As a service, my office maintains a collection of useful publications that may be of interest to you. Copies will be mailed to you by filling out the following form:

☐ Citizen's Guide to State Government

☐ Services for Seniors

☐ Travel Michigan

☐ Campground Guide

☐ Michigan Map

☐ Child Safety

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

State Senator

ALAN SANBORN

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SAFER INTERNET USE

Sen. Sanborn and i-SAFE America representatives brought lessons in Internet safety to students, parents, and community members in Macomb County in November.

Sen. Sanborn became involved with the i-SAFE program after delivering the keynote address at a meeting in Clinton Township in November, where concerned citizens gathered to discuss Internet safety issues and education. The forum provided opportunities for community members to join Community Action Teams, which assist student mentors in their efforts to plan and launch Cyber Safety Week in local schools. For more information on the congressionally funded i-SAFE program, call or write Sen. Sanborn.



RARE ISOTOPE ACCELERATOR = ECONOMIC BOOM FOR MICHIGAN

The Senate Economic Development, Small Business and Regulatory Reform Committee, chaired by Sen. Sanborn, took action on a resolution calling on the federal government to locate a proposed Rare Isotope Accelerator (RIA) at Michigan State University. The accelerator is the next-generation facility for conducting basic nuclear science research into the foundations of the physical world. Recently, rare-isotope research has led to dramatic advancements in medicine, national security, and detection technologies. Rare-isotope research is the heart of current, leading-edge medical imaging technologies. Nuclear scientists at MSU are recognized worldwide as leaders in their field, making MSU an ideal location for the RIA. The project has the potential to bring a billion dollars worth of construction jobs to the state and almost \$2 billion in federal money over 20 years, and the potential for private, high-tech firms to locate here to be close to the facility and its staff. For more information, contact Sen. Sanborn.

CABLE SHOW INFORMATION

Tune into Sen. Sanborn's Cable Show, on *Macomb Today!* *Macomb Today* airs at various times on local cable stations, channel 6 in most areas. Keep an eye on your local listings for show times or visit www.senate.mi.gov/sanborn